

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03
BIB-01 /074 W
-----210900Z 124723 /17

R 210640Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 715
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 0971

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UN, US
SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED NEWS AGENCY POOL COORDINATION COMMITTEE
MEETING

REF: CAIRO 0913

1. MEA JOINT SECRETARY (UN) N.P. JAIN, WHO WAS MEMBER OF INDIAN
DELEGATION AT PRESS POOL COORDINATION COMMITTEE IN CAIRO LAST
WEEK. TOLD POLCOUNSELOR, JAN 19, INDIA HAD NO OBJECTION TO
COOPERATING WITH WESTERN INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES (CONTRARY
TO INFO REFTTEL PARA 1 B) BUT DID OBJECT TO ONE NON-ALIGNED NEWS
AGENCY DISSEMINATING NEWS TO WESTERN AGENCIES WHICH IT HAD
OBTAINED FROM ANOTHER NON-ALIGNED NEWS AGENCY. ISSUE WAS ONE OF
COMMERCIAL CONCERN TO INDIA AND ITS AGENCY SAMACHAR. LATTER WAS
PREPARED TO ENTER INTO COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH
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WESTERN AGENCIES FOR PURCHASE OF SAMACHAR NEWS, BUT DID NOT WANT
TANJUG, FOR EXAMPLE, SELLING SAMACHAR NEWS TO AP OR UPI. INDIA
WAS FULLY IN FAVOR OF WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES USING NON-ALIGNED
NEWS AND INDEED THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IN PROVIDING
CORRECTIVE TO OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION. ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD
BE WORKED OUT ON BILATERAL BASIS, HOWEVER, BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL NON-
ALIGNED AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUAL WESTERN AGENCIES. AP, FOR

EXAMPLE, CAN USE SAMACHAR'S DOMESTIC WIRE IN EXCHANGE FOR AP'S SALE OF NEWS TO SAMACHAR.

2. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, JAN 20, WITH PRESS ATTACHE, W. LAZARUS, ACTING GENERAL MANAGER OF SAMACHAR, WHO WAS AT THE CAIRO CONFERENCE, CONFIRMED REFTEL INFORMATION THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS FOR NON-ALIGNED AGENCIES. MAIN PUSH FOR THIS, HE CLAIMED, CAME FROM YUGOSLAVS (NOT INDIANS AS IN REFTEL) WHO HE SAID WANTED THE PRESTIGE AND THE FUNDS THAT WOULD ACCRUE TO HOST ORGANIZATION. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE SOON EXPECTS THAT SAMACHAR WILL STOP FILING ANY MATERIAL TO OTHER NON-ALIGNED NEWS AGENCIES BECAUSE OF THE SEVERE DRAIN THIS IS CAUSING TO HIS BUDGET. AS A BACKGROUND, CURRENT SYSTEM IS FOR ORIGINATING AGENCY TO PAY TELEX COSTS TO RECIPIENT AGENCY. SAMACHAR STARTED OUT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO BY FILING MORE THAN 1000 WORDS DAILY TO SEVERAL NON-ALIGNED AGENCIES. WHEN FIRST BILLS CAME IN SAMACHAR RETRENCHED TO ABOUT ONE-FIFTH OF THIS DAILY. LAZARUS OBSERVED ALSO THAT THERE WAS VERY LITTLE RECIPROCITY FROM OTHER AGENCIES AND THIS TOO WAS DAMPENING SAMACHAR'S ENTHUSIASM FOR THE POOL IDEA. WE NOTE THAT LAZARUS HAS NEVER BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PRESS POOL, UNLIKE HIS BOSS, MOHAMMED YUNUS. WE CAUTION, THEREFORE, AGAINST OVER-READING OF HIS REMARKS.

3. EMBASSY NOTES THAT WESTERN WIRE SERVICES NOT ONLY FUNCTION SMOOTHLY IN DELHI BUT GOI HAS RECENTLY AGREED TO PERMIT SEVERAL WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS TO RETURN TO INDIA, INCLUDING BBC AND LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES. WE ASSUME INDIAN OBJECTIONS DESCRIBED PARA ONE ABOVE REFLECT CONCERN THAT BETTER ESTABLISHED AND MORE SOPHISTICATED AGENCY SUCH AS TANJUG MIGHR REAP SUBSTANTIAL PROFITS FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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SELLING OFF OUTPUT OF AGENCIES LIKE SAMACHAR. IT WOULD NOT BE THE FIRST TIME SELF-INTEREST RAISED HACKLES WITHIN NON-ALIGNED CIRCLES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS, THE PRESS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE00971
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770022-0847
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770129/aaaaazrl.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4afa60d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: NON-ALIGNED NEWS AGENCY POOL COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, SOPN, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4afa60d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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